

Introduced by Senator Wright

April 26, 2010

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 106—Relative to the Deputy Chief Kenneth O. Garner Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 106, as introduced, Wright. Deputy Chief Kenneth O. Garner Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a portion of State Highway Route 110, in the City of Los Angeles, as the Deputy Chief Kenneth O. Garner Memorial Highway. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Kenneth O. Garner was born on November 28,
2 1955, in Hot Springs, Arkansas, the third of four children born to
3 Otto and Mary Garner, and, because his parents were both enlisted
4 in the United States Army during his childhood, he traveled the
5 world and lived in Taiwan, Germany, and Japan; and
6 WHEREAS, Kenneth O. Garner graduated from San Pedro High
7 School in 1973 and received his Associate of Arts Degree in
8 Administration of Justice from Los Angeles Harbor College in
9 1975. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from
10 the California State University, Dominguez Hills in 1981. He was
11 a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National
12 Academy, and the Supervisory Leadership Institute and the Senior
13 Management Institute Program (Boston University); and

1 WHEREAS, Kenneth O. Garner was appointed to the Los
2 Angeles Police Department (LAPD) on June 6, 1977. As a police
3 officer his assignments included Southwest Area, 77th Street Area,
4 Central Area, 77th Street Vice, and Southeast Area. Upon
5 promotion to Sergeant in 1986, his assignments included Central
6 Area, Operations-South Bureau C.R.A.S.H., 77th Street Area,
7 Internal Affairs Division, and Operations-South Bureau, where he
8 served as a Commander's Aide. After being promoted to Lieutenant
9 he was assigned to Wilshire Area and South Traffic Division as a
10 Watch Commander; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1998, Lieutenant Garner was promoted to the
12 rank of Captain. His first assignment was in Foothill Area as the
13 Commanding Officer of the Operations-Support Division. He was
14 also assigned as the Commanding Officer of South Traffic
15 Division, Foothill Area, Transit Bus Division, and the 77th Street
16 Area; and

17 WHEREAS, On October 2, 2005, Captain Garner was promoted
18 to the rank of Commander and assigned as the commanding officer
19 of Personnel Group. In this assignment, and among his many
20 responsibilities, Commander Garner was responsible for overseeing
21 sworn, civilian, and reserve recruitment and hiring for the
22 department. He was charged with the enormous task of furthering
23 the mayor's hiring initiative to increase the LAPD's authorized
24 strength to 10,000 sworn employees by 2010, the highest number
25 of officers in LAPD history. Due in large part to Commander
26 Garner's efforts, the LAPD's current sworn deployment is now at
27 9,895, a milestone achievement for the department. This
28 accomplishment is indicative that the department is on pace to
29 reach the mayor's goal of 10,000 officers later this year; and

30 WHEREAS, On July 1, 2007, a month after celebrating his 30th
31 year with the department, Commander Garner was promoted to
32 the rank of Deputy Chief of Police. He was soon assigned as the
33 Commanding Officer of Operations-West Bureau, where he
34 oversaw all police operations in the Hollywood, Wilshire, West
35 Los Angeles, and Pacific Areas and West Traffic Division; and

36 WHEREAS, On March 2, 2008, Deputy Chief Garner returned
37 to the community where he grew up and assumed command of
38 Operations-South Bureau, where he led the Criminal
39 Gang/Homicide Group, 77th Street, Southwest, Southeast, Harbor
40 Areas, and South Traffic Division; and

1 WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Garner was a member in good
2 standing with the Oscar Joel Bryand Foundation and the
3 Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives, and was a
4 member of the Epsilon Kappa Chapter of the Kappa Alpha Psi
5 Fraternity. He was also a member of the FBI National Academy
6 Association, the Northeast Toastmasters Club, and the Los Angeles
7 Police Command Officers Association. He was recipient of the
8 Trailblazer Award in 2008, where he was recognized for his
9 outstanding contribution to the progress of African Americans in
10 the City of Los Angeles. He received numerous community
11 citations as well as awards from the United States Congress,
12 California State Assembly, and various church and community
13 organizations for his involvement and dedication to the community;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Garner was a firm believer that
16 teamwork played a significant role in achieving success. He was
17 truly determined to create fundamental change for the people who
18 live and work in the south region of the City of Los Angeles. He
19 supported residential, business, and community organizations such
20 as neighborhood Watch, the Watts Gang Task Force, and the Los
21 Angeles Urban League and Community Build. Deputy Chief
22 Garner was also committed to increasing the recognition and
23 effectiveness of gang intervention in the most troubled parts of the
24 community. He also initiated an innovative program for community
25 re-entry and rehabilitation of parolees, believing they deserved an
26 opportunity for a better life; and

27 WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Garner enjoyed music, smooth jazz,
28 and R&B, was an avid reader, and a huge fan of the Los Angeles
29 Dodgers and Lakers. He was also a volunteer coach for youth
30 basketball, baseball, and football at the Mar Vista Recreation
31 Center; and

32 WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Garner passed away unexpectedly
33 on February 28, 2009, at the age of 53 years; and

34 WHEREAS, Deputy Chief Garner's legacy will continue through
35 his beloved daughter, Lauren; his loving parents, Otto and Mary;
36 his brother, David, and sisters, Carolyn and Nelianne; his nephews
37 and nieces; his Los Angeles Police Department family; a host of
38 friends; and thousands of community members, whom he was
39 proud to serve; now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
2 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby designates the
3 portion of State Highway Route 110 from five miles south of the
4 Florence Avenue exit (near Rosecrans Avenue) to five miles north
5 of the Florence Avenue exit (near Pico and Olympic Boulevards),
6 in the City of Los Angeles, as the Deputy Chief Kenneth O. Garner
7 Memorial Highway; and be it further

8 *Resolved,* That the Department of Transportation is requested
9 to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the
10 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this
11 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
12 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
13 further

14 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
15 this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
16 author for appropriate distribution.